

pure refractive channel is open so as to allow the lens to drape to the eye.

27. A multifocal lens of the Cohen lens design containing, in an optically receptive area, a phase plate and a pure refractive portion which possesses only a zero-order diffraction that symmetrically retards the light passing therethrough.

28. The multifocal lens of the Cohen lens design of claim 27 wherein the optical receptive area comprises a plurality of annular phase plates.

29. The multifocal lens of the Cohen lens design of claim 27 wherein the zeroth ( $0^{th}$ ) order diffraction zone diffracts light to constructively interfere with the light waves of the phase plate to form or enhance an image at a desired focal point.

30. The multifocal lens of the Cohen lens design of claim 27 wherein the zeroth ( $0^{th}$ ) order diffraction zone constitutes one or more channels in the lens.

31. A multifocal lens containing a phase plate and a pure refractive portion which possesses only a zero-order diffraction that symmetrically retards the light passing therethrough.

32. The multifocal lens of claim 31 wherein the phase plate and the pure refractive portion comprise a plurality of annular phase zone plates.

33. The multifocal lens of claim 31 wherein the zeroth ( $0^{th}$ ) order diffraction zone diffracts light to constructively interfere with the light waves of the phase plate to form or enhance an image at a desired focal point.

34. The multifocal lens of claim 31 wherein the zeroth ( $0^{th}$ ) order diffraction zone constitutes one or more channels in the lens.

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